

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-09 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

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P R 030931 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2020

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO CINCPAC

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COMUSMACTHAI

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 5240

EO 11652: GDS-1979- GFM

TAGS: MARR, TH

SUBJECT: RTG POLICY RE US MILITARY CONTRACTS

REF: A. BANGKOK 3493 B. STATE 042106 C. BANGKOK 4265

1. AS INDICATED REF C, WE TURNED OVER TO GENERAL KRIANGSAK ON MARCH 23 COMPLETE LIST OF US MILITARY CONTRACTS. LIST INCLUDED CONTRACTS NOT ONLY WITH FOREIGN FIRMS BUT ALSO WITH THAI FIRMS. INCLUSION THAI FIRMS SERVED TO DOCUMENT THAT LOCAL FIRMS ARE ALREADY BENEFITTING TO SIGNIFICANT EXTENT FROM US MILITARY PRESENCE.

2. KRIANGSAK REQUESTED THREE ADDITIONAL COPIES THIS LIST OF CONTRACTS TO CIRCULATE WITHIN RTG. WE ANTICIPATE THAT, FOLLOWING RTG STUDY OF LIST, WE WILL SOON BE STRONGLY PRESSURED FOR REVIEW OF SPECIFIC CONTRACTS THAT COULD BE SHIFTED FROM FOREIGN TO THAI FIRMS.

3. BASED ON REVIEW OF TRANS- ASIA CONTRACT, WHICH IS ONE OF LARGEST AND UP FOR RENEWAL THIS SUMMER, US MILITARY CONSIDERS THAT IT IS NOT FEASIBLE IN SHORT TIME FRAME (PRESENT CONTRACT EXPIRES IN JULY) EITHER

TO SHIFT ENTIRE CONTRACT OR MAJOR ELEMENTS TO LOCAL FCGMS. MACTHAI PROPOSES, WITH EMBASSY CONCURRENCE, TO TRY TO CONVINCE
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SUPREME COMMAND HEADQUARTERS (FEBRUARY) WHY THIS IS SO AND SEEK
SUPR-
EME COMMAND' S CONCURRENCE TO EXTEND CONTRACT ON BASIS THAT
APPROX-
IMATELY 100 ADDITIONAL SUPERVISORY POSITIONS WILL BE FILLED BY THAI
NATIONALS AND THAT TRANS- ASIA' S TRAINING PROGRAM TO QUALIFY MORE
THAI
NATIONALS FOR SUPERVISORY AND SKILLED POSITIONS WILL BE EXPANDED.

4. EMBASSY CONTINUES FEEL IT IS URGENT AND IMPORTANT TO GIVE GENERAL
KRIANGSAK COMMITMENTS IN PRINCIPLE ALONG LINES HE HAS DEMANDED
(REF A) AND THIS THIS WILL FACILITATE RATHER THAN HINDER EFFORTS
TO ATTENUATE IMPACT IN SPECIFIC CASES SUCH AS TRANS- ASIA. CONSEQUEN-
LY, WE AGAIN REQUEST GUIDANCE ASAP.
UNGER

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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